

collect substantial amounts of revenue from that source, and might not have collected it even with the tax in place. I want to say this, we all recognize that President Reagan has said that the states must accept additional responsibility. And he has said also that the tribes must accept additional responsibility, and therefore the tribes have lost more than 22 percent of their federal funding since 1981...1980 I believe. That means that there has to be some assistance come from somewhere. Native Americans were here first, they have in most cases been left outside the mainstream of Nebraska life. They reside, for the most part, either in, as I said, a few urban areas or upon perhaps the least desirable farm land in the State of Nebraska. I believe that we can provide them some assistance here which will be effective. As I said earlier, there is not, in my opinion, much of an argument for providing for the agency, unless you provide with enough staff, enough funds to keep the system going at a point that will help them do the job they must do. I believe that the 23,000 will provide enough staff that they can function effectively. And I want to point out one more thing, in the event that we do not bring the native Americans into the mainstream of Nebraska life, the time will come, as federal funds decline, that once again those individuals who have needs that are not being met...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...will have to rely upon the local government, in most instances that is the county government, most instances that will be the property taxes, and almost in every instance in my experience it is the property tax which is the most onerous, the most burdensome and the most loathed in the state. So I would hope that we would invest this 23,000 in the native Americans, the Indian Commission, so that they can do the job that is necessary. Senator Warner, in opposition to 775, said how much are you willing to pay for hope. Well, ladies and gentlemen, under LB 775 it is my estimation we will pay many millions of dollars for hope. In this instance we are paying...asking you to appropriate \$23,000 for hope for the native Americans. I think it is a reasonable sum. I ask you to support the amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Abboud.

SENATOR ABOUD: I call the previous question.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Abboud moves the previous question.